

### ***What to do if you are trapped in your car during a winter storm:***

- ❑ Stay in the car. Do not leave the car to look for help unless help is visible within 100 yards.
- ❑ Display a “call for help” sign. Raise the car hood or hang a brightly colored cloth on the antenna to signal for help
- ❑ To keep warm, turn on the car’s engine for about 10 minutes each hour. Run the heater and lights only. (Avoid running the car battery down.)
- ❑ Keep the exhaust pipe clear of snow.
- ❑ Open a window slightly for fresh air.
- ❑ Do light exercise to stay warm.
- ❑ If you’re alone, stay awake as much as possible.
- ❑ If more than one person is in the car, take turns sleeping, and huddle close together for warmth.
- ❑ Wrap your body and head with extra clothes, blankets, newspapers, maps or removable objects.
- ❑ Do not eat snow—it lowers your body temperature. If no other water is available, boil snow to kill germs.

### ***Weathering winter storms with help from the National Weather Service***

**Forecasts** are published 2 or more times daily by the National Weather Service in Flagstaff in addition to its 7-day forecasts.

**Hazardous Weather Outlooks** are issued to discuss hazards when the possibility of hazardous weather exists.

**Winter Storm Watches** are issued when a winter storm is likely, but uncertainty still exists in its occurrence, timing, and/or location. It is usually issued 12-36 hours in advance of a storm.

**Winter Storm Warnings** are issued when winter storms are imminent or occurring. At this point, anyone in the area should take immediate precautions to protect life and property.

Winter Storm Advisories

**Winter Weather Advisories** are issued when less serious winter weather is imminent or occurring, but not considered life threatening.



### ***Road Condition Information and Emergency Contacts:***

**Life-threatening Emergency only:** Dial 911

#### ***Coconino County Public Works***

Flagstaff Area: 928-679-8300

Williams Area: 928-679-8370

Toll Free\*: 1-800-790-1990

*\*For information on unincorporated areas around Flagstaff*

#### ***Coconino County Sheriff***

928-774-4523

Toll Free: 1-800-338-7888

**City of Flagstaff:** 928-774-1605

**City of Page:** 928-645-2463

**City of Sedona:** 928-282-3100

**City of Williams:** 928-635-4461

**Statewide Current Road Conditions:** Dial 511

Toll Free: 1-888-411-7623

[www.az.511.com](http://www.az.511.com)

#### ***Department of Public Safety***

Report Accidents: 928-773-3600



To receive emergency messages, including weather warnings, enroll in CodeRED.  
Go to [www.coconino.az.gov/emergency](http://www.coconino.az.gov/emergency) and click on the CodeRED logo.



All photos courtesy Jim Westling



### ***Winter Weather Preparation and Safety***



***Who is responsible for plowing  
my road during a snow storm?***

***Who do I call for information  
on winter road conditions ?***

***What are some basic  
winter preparedness tips?***

***Northern Arizona’s average annual  
snowfall is 108 inches... but some  
winters are more severe than others.***

***To ensure your personal safety,***

***Be Prepared!***

***This information could save your life!***

***There are many misconceptions about snow removal, and they vary depending on which side of the “windrow” you end up on!***

When snow is removed from the roadway, the snowplow operator piles it as far off the shoulder of the road as possible, to protect the surface of the road and make room for additional snow from future storms. This creates a windrow, or snow berm.



***Individuals are responsible for clearing windrows from residential driveways, businesses and mailboxes and for shoveling their sidewalks.***

***Who is responsible for plowing my road during a snow storm?***

Sometimes citizens don't understand why their road is not being plowed when another road in the area seems to take priority. It may be helpful to understand the snow removal policy adopted by Coconino County.

The Coconino County Public Works Department staff monitors weather conditions daily. An inclement weather procedure is in place to mobilize and deploy crews to plow County roads during snow storms and throughout the clean-up process.

The snow plow schedule is prioritized on a “greatest impact” basis. The main roads (arterials) are plowed first, followed by collector and residential streets. This allows citizens some mobility within the community and keeps emergency services as accessible as possible. Once these routes are accessible, side streets and cul-de-sacs are plowed.

***Coconino County plows roads that are included in their regular maintenance program and are outside city limits.***

The County does not plow State maintained highways, roads within the boundaries of an incorporated city, or private roads.

The incorporated cities within Coconino County plow streets and roads within their city limits that are included in their regular maintenance programs. Arizona Department of Transportation is responsible for Inter-state Highway and State Route snow removal.

***Private roads are not maintained by the County.***

Citizens who live on private roads are encouraged to call private snow removal contractors prior to the snow season to arrange for service.

As residents of Coconino County, we are fortunate to live in an atmosphere of cooperation between governmental agencies. Coconino County, Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), the State of Arizona, and the incorporated cities within the County team up and pool resources when necessary to provide prompt, efficient snow removal services during the storm season.

***Do not park your vehicle on roadways during and after snowstorms.***

Coconino County has adopted an ordinance restricting motor vehicles from parking on streets during winter months (November 1–April 1). Any vehicles parked in a manner that prevents efficient operation of snow removal may be cited and/or towed at the owner's expense.

***Plan ahead for winter!***

***Prepare your vehicle:***

Winterize your vehicle (antifreeze, wipers, battery, snow tires).

Carry an emergency kit consisting of tire chains or cables, blankets, tow strap, jumper cables, flashlight, water, first aid kit, ice scraper, extra clothing, tools, sleeping bag.

Keep the gas tank at least half full.

***Do not take chances in severe weather conditions!***

Call 511 for ADOT road conditions before you leave or tune in to local radio stations.

Check and restock emergency supplies in your car before you leave.

Listen for travel warnings.

Let someone know your intended route and expected time of arrival.

Travel with caution! Allow extra time for travel and drive accordingly.

Avoid icy roads, if possible.

Use tire chains.

Never pour water on your windshield to remove ice or snow; the windshield may shatter.

***Be prepared at home!***

Non-perishable food and water for a minimum of five days.

First aid kit and extra supply of medication

Personal hygiene supplies, extra clothing, gloves, footwear, blankets, sleeping bags

Extra food and water for pets and livestock

Flashlight (avoid using candles)

Extra batteries

Battery operated radio; NOAA Weather radio

Alternate heat source (kerosene, wood, etc.)

Full propane tank (if applicable)

Extra set of car keys, cash, credit cards

Snow shovels; rock salt or cat litter for traction

Shovel snow away from fire hydrants

Have an emergency procedure plan for the entire family. Practice before an emergency!